

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help students
do well in school*

Mater Academy Lakes High School



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Students Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Talk with your teen about a community issue that concerns him. Ask his opinion about how to improve things.
- 2. Listen actively to your teen. Make eye contact and restate what she says to confirm your understanding.
- 3. Take turns calling out words from the dictionary during breakfast. See who can spell them.
- 4. Before your teen goes out, make sure he tells you where he's going and with whom.
- 5. Ask your teen, "If you could be the first person to do something, what would it be? Why?"
- 6. Don't label your teen (Morgan is the shy one). Kids tend to live up to the labels parents create for them.
- 7. Have your teen research how and when she can register to vote.
- 8. Talk to your teen about the importance of school attendance. Reinforce that attendance is also important in the working world.
- 9. Ask your child to estimate how far he can drive before a full tank of gas gets down to the ¼ mark.
- 10. Is your teen studying a foreign language? Have her look online for publications and videos in that language.
- 11. With your teen, compare the print edition of today's newspaper with the online version. How are they the same and how are they different?
- 12. Test observation skills. Challenge each other to describe someone you just passed on the street.
- 13. Suggest that your teen use two colors of highlighter to organize his notes. One color is for main ideas, the other for specific facts.
- 14. Encourage your teen to be active and try new physical fitness activities.
- 15. Make plans to do something together with the family of one of your teen's friends.
- 16. Avoid interrupting during your teen's study time.
- 17. Check out the school website with your teen. What can you find that you haven't seen before?
- 18. Notice silent messages. If your teen is smiling, say, "You seem happy."
- 19. Spend some time with your teen just "hanging out." No plan, no chores. Just enjoy each other's company.
- 20. Remind your teen that she has control over her success or failure in school.
- 21. Try talking with your teen as you would with a coworker or a friend.
- 22. Challenge family members to learn and use three new words a day. That's over 1,000 words a year!
- 23. Talk with your teen about his plans for the day.
- 24. Teach your teen that a goal is a dream with a deadline.
- 25. Discuss credit cards with your teen. Explain that some cards charge 20 percent interest or more.
- 26. Talk with your teen about dating. Share your values and standards.
- 27. Exchange persuasive letters with your teen. Try to convince each other of something.
- 28. Be aware of graduation requirements. Don't wait to get the facts!
- 29. Ask what your teen thinks the world will be like in 100 years.
- 30. Make it clear to your teen that cheating is *always* wrong, even if it seems like "everybody does it."
- 31. Ask your teen to tell you which class she feels she does best in and why.